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LETTER DATED 29 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF SENEGAL TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the statement made in the Council of Ministers on 22 January 1991 by the President of the Republic of Senegal concerning the crisis in the Gulf.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Absa Claude DIALLO

Annex

Statement dated 22 January 1991 by the President of the Republic of Senegal

The world entered into war on 16 January 1991 because of Iraq's flagrant violation of international law in invading and annexing Kuwait.

The Senegalese Government has unceasingly endeavoured to ensure respect for international law and to secure the withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait and the restoration of that country's legitimate Government.

Working in concert with the nations of the world, Senegal has sought to implement Security Council resolutions, particularly the resolution authorizing the use of force as of 15 January.

Senegal has always hoped that a decision by the Iraqi President to withdraw from Kuwait might preserve peace.

Unfortunately, the Iraqi President has persisted in his illegal acts. In the face of its failure to generalize the conflict, Iraq has, in the past 24 hours, used prisoners of war as human shields, in violation of the Geneva Convention on the treatment of prisoners of war.

Deeply shocked and angered, the Government of Senegal has condemned this inhumane policy which runs counter to law.

The Government of Senegal hopes that this war will come to an end as quickly as possible so that such major problems as Palestine, underdevelopment, and the search for a new, fairer international order can mobilize the energies of all the peoples of the world.